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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Application Number | 09/811,456 |
| Filing Date | March 20, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Masahito ISODA |
| Group Art Unit | 2816 |
| Examiner Name | L. Nguyen |
| Attorney Docket Number | 108075-00056 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisions Application Practice, Fine Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Additional Claim Transmittal

2. **Miscellaneous**

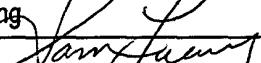
- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, fee deficiency or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$858.00 (\$750 for RCE and \$108 for additional claims)

08/07/2003 SDENB0B1 00000059 09811456
01 FC:1801 750.00 OP
02 FC:1202 108.00 OP

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Sam Huang | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 48,430 |
| Signature) |  | Date | August 6, 2003 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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RCE 2816
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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Masahito ISODA

Art Unit: 2816

Application No.: 09/811,456

Examiner: L. Nguyen

Filed: March 20, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108075-00056

For: IMPROVED INPUT BUFFER CIRCUIT FOR SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Introductory Comments

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 6, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated May 6, 2003 and a submission of a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE"), please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

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